

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 17, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 2, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 17, 2006

SENATE BILL

No. 1688

**Introduced by Senator Bowen
(Principal coauthor: Senator Alquist)**

February 24, 2006

An act to add and repeal Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 16040) of Part 4 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to foster care, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1688, as amended, Bowen. Foster care: instruction and education pilot project.

Existing law declares the duty of the state to care for and protect the children that it places into foster care. Under existing law, the State Department of Social Services has various powers and duties relating to ensuring that the needs of foster children are met by local child welfare agencies and foster care providers.

This bill would require the State Department of Social Services to contract with ~~a specified~~ *an entity with specified qualifications* to establish, until January 1, 2011, a foster care parent and child home instruction and education pilot project, as specified in the bill. The bill would set forth the purposes of the pilot project, including the duties of the department and the contracting entity, with respect to the operation of the pilot project and the development of materials and curriculum. This bill would require the department, in consultation with the Legislative Analyst's Office, to establish the criteria by

which to evaluate the pilot project. The bill would require the department to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot project and submit a report to the Legislature by July 1, 2011.

This bill would appropriate \$50,000 from the General Fund to the department to implement the bill.

This bill would become inoperative on July 1, 2011, and be repealed as of January 1, 2012.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 16040)
2 is added to Part 4 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions
3 Code, to read:

4
5 CHAPTER 1.5. FOSTER CARE PARENT AND CHILD HOME
6 INSTRUCTION AND EDUCATION
7

8 16040. (a) (1) The State Department of Social Services shall
9 ~~contract with Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool~~
10 ~~Youngsters, California (HIPPY California) to establish a foster~~
11 ~~contract with an entity with the qualifications specified in~~
12 ~~paragraph (2) to establish a foster care parent and child home~~
13 instruction and education pilot project in accordance with this
14 chapter.

15 (2) *The qualified entity shall meet all of the following criteria:*

16 (A) *It shall have statewide experience in the training,*
17 *education, and evaluation of children three to five years of age,*
18 *and be approved by Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool*
19 *Youngsters, USA (HIPPY USA) to use the curriculum and*
20 *materials described in this section.*

21 (B) *It shall provide national and international research,*
22 *demonstrating the academic and behavioral benefits of the home*
23 *instruction approach for foster and at-risk families.*

24 (C) *It shall implement a multiyear program that utilizes*
25 *curriculum and materials described in this section, designed*
26 *specifically for preschoolage children.*

27 (b) The pilot project shall be conducted in two counties that
28 agree to participate, other than Los Angeles County.

1 (c) The purposes of the pilot project shall be as follows:

2 (1) To empower foster parents as the primary educators of
3 foster children in their home.

4 (2) To ensure the foster parents' involvement in school and
5 community life, so as to maximize the chances of successful
6 early school experiences for children three to five years of age.

7 16042. The pilot project shall use specialized materials,
8 curriculum, and books, *developed by HIPPY USA, and* designed
9 to strengthen children's cognitive and reading skills, and social
10 and emotional development. The project shall promote, at a
11 minimum, the following objectives:

12 (a) Helping foster parents to recognize their role as their foster
13 children's first and most influential teachers.

14 (b) Strengthening of the community at large by empowering
15 foster parents.

16 (c) Preparing foster children for school.

17 (d) Allowing foster parents to bond with their foster children
18 ~~and move toward adoption.~~

19 ~~16044. HIPPY-California~~ *The qualified entity described in*
20 *subdivision (a) of Section 16040* shall assist the department in
21 developing, producing, and distributing project materials,
22 curriculum, and books, and shall offer other technical assistance
23 to the department as necessary.

24 ~~16046. (a) Before HIPPY-California~~ *the qualified entity*
25 *described in subdivision (a) of Section 16040* begins to provide
26 services, the department shall establish the elements of an
27 evaluation, identify the measurable objectives to be evaluated,
28 and have the procedures in place for data collection. In
29 completing these tasks, the department shall consult with the
30 Legislative Analyst's Office. The pilot project shall terminate on
31 January 1, 2011. The department shall prepare a report evaluating
32 the effectiveness of the pilot project and shall submit the report to
33 the appropriate committees of the Legislature by July 1, 2011.

34 (b) This chapter shall become inoperative on July 1, 2011, and
35 as of January 1, 2012, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute is
36 enacted before ~~July 1, 2011~~, *January 1, 2012, that* deletes or
37 extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is
38 repealed.

39 SEC. 2. There is hereby appropriated fifty thousand dollars
40 (\$50,000) from the General Fund to the State Department of

- 1 Social Services to implement the foster care parent and child
- 2 home instruction and education pilot project in accordance with
- 3 Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 16040) of Part 4 of
- 4 Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

O